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N.Y. Federal Judge Likely on Shortlist Backers Say She Meets Obama Requisites

By *Keith B. Richburg*
Washington Post Staff Writer
Thursday, May 7, 2009

NEW YORK -- George M. Pavia remembers being instantly impressed with the young woman he hired for his law firm in 1984. Sonia Sotomayor had graduated summa cum laude at Princeton, edited the Yale Law Journal in law school and had courtroom experience in the Manhattan prosecutor's office.



Sonia Sotomayor, who received an honorary degree from Pace University in 2003, is expected to be a reliable liberal vote if appointed to the high court. (Courtesy Of Pace University)

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She also spoke Spanish, which helped her understand Italian, and one of the firm's main client's was carmaker Fiat.

"She was just ideal for us in terms of her background and training," said Pavia, managing partner of Pavia & Harcourt.

What also impressed him, he said, was her personal story. Sotomayor, who is of Puerto Rican descent, had grown up in a public housing project in the Bronx, near the old Yankee Stadium. Her father died when she was a child, leaving her mother, a nurse, to instill in Sotomayor and her brother the idea that education was their path to a better life.

"She is, in a way, a counterpart of Obama himself," Pavia said. "It's the American dream -- anybody can make it."

Sotomayor, a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit, appears by most accounts to be on the shortlist of Supreme Court nominees to replace retiring Justice David H. Souter. If appointed, she would be the third woman on the bench in the court's history and the first Hispanic.

Sotomayor presents a contradiction, say those who know her. Her detractors have said she can be short-tempered, tough on the bench and at odds with the amicability that President Obama has often sought in his appointments.

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But her supporters -- former Yale



classmates, law firm colleagues and former clerks -- say she meets the definition of what Obama has said he is looking for: a qualified nominee with legal and real world experience, as well as an appreciation for the impact of court decisions on everyday life.

"I think her life experience gives her exactly the kind of perspective the court needs," said Robert H. Klonoff, dean of Lewis & Clark Law School in Portland, Ore., and a classmate and

friend of Sotomayor's from Yale Law School's class of 1979. "When I read [Obama's] description of what he thinks of as an ideal justice, she just fits it to a T." Besides her background, he said, "her credentials are unbelievable."

Among others mentioned as possible replacements for Souter are Elena Kagan, Obama's solicitor general and the former dean of Harvard Law School; Michigan Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm (D), a Harvard Law School graduate; Judge Diane P. Wood of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit; and Leah Ward Sears, chief justice of the Georgia Supreme Court.

Sotomayor would probably be a reliably liberal vote on a court split into conservative and liberal blocs on many major issues. But her friends, colleagues and former clerks say she would not be reflexively liberal or "results-oriented" but would adhere to the law and the Constitution.

"More than anything, I would call her a legal purist," said Julia Tarver Mason, who clerked for Sotomayor a decade ago. "I think she defies categorization in that sense because she really does make the law based on the law, in a purist fashion."

"She appreciates the complexity of issues," said Stephen L. Carter, a Yale professor who edited a piece by Sotomayor for the Yale Law Journal in 1979 and who teaches some of her opinions in his classes. Confronted with a tough case, Carter said, "she doesn't leap at its throat but reasons to get to the bottom of issues."

Klonoff recalls seeing flashes of her toughness in their law school days. "She would stand up for herself and not be intimidated by anyone," he said. If she won the appointment to the high court, he said, "I think she'd be the kind of justice who could change some minds."

Many of her former clerks speak of a softer side. While setting a demanding work pace, they said, she became a mentor to them and cared about their personal lives. The divorced Sotomayor, who has no children of her own, has told friends that her clerks are like her children.

"She's one of the best mentors I've ever had," Mason said. "She's given me advice about working in the legal profession, advice about my career, and about my personal life, about relationships."

Another former clerk, Jenny Rivera, now a law professor at New York University, recalled how when her mother died not long ago, Sotomayor called her regularly and came to the funeral. "I know she's very close to her mother," Rivera said. "I really appreciated her sense of caring for me and my brother."

Sotomayor, an avid Yankees fan, lives modestly, reporting virtually no assets despite her \$179,500 yearly salary.

On her financial disclosure report for 2007, she said her only financial holdings were a Citibank checking and savings account, worth \$50,000 to \$115,000 combined.

During the previous four years, the money in the accounts at some points was listed as low as \$30,000.

When asked recently how she managed to file such streamlined reports, Sotomayor, according to a source, replied, "When you don't have money, it's easy. There isn't anything there to report."

Staff writers Joe Stephens in Washington and Robin Shulman in New York and staff researcher Madonna Lebling in Washington contributed to this report.

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SUPREME COURT

Sotomayor Rose High, with Few Assets

By Joe Stephens

Congressional staffers tend to begin the vetting process for Supreme Court nominees by looking for fatal flaws in their personal finances -- anything from shady business partners to holdings in corporations that might have business before the court. Experience has proven that financial holdings can prove fertile ground for digging.

Not so in the case of Sonia Sotomayor of New York, who is considered a front-runner to replace the retiring David H. Souter.

Although Sotomayor earns \$179,500 a year as a judge on the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals in New York and worked for eight years as a private attorney in New York before joining the bench, in recent years she has reported having virtually no assets.

For 2007, Sotomayor, who is divorced, reported that she had no financial holdings that needed to be reported on her personal financial disclosure report, save for a checking account and a saving account with Citibank. Combined, the accounts were worth \$50,000 to \$115,000. That was more than she reported as assets during the previous four years, during which the value of the accounts at some points was listed as low as \$30,000.

Since at least 2003, she has reported owning no stocks and having no investments in real estate.

The judge's reportable net worth has hardly changed at all since she was appointed to the bench in 1992, according to a source in a position to know. The modest increase in her net worth in 2007 may be attributable to a home equity loan she took out to do some renovations, the source said.

Disclosed assets may not tell the whole financial picture, as federal rules do not require judges to disclose the value of their personal residences. Sotomayor has listed no outstanding loans or other liabilities in recent years, except for four credit cards.

Some of Sotomayor's disclosure forms appear incomplete or have included jumbled value codes. Sotomayor has filed at least one amended report to correct the problems, the source said, but that report was not immediately available to reporters and the public.

Experts on the federal judiciary said that a small but significant number of federal judges file reports as sparse as Sotomayor's.

"It's a little sad that someone at the top of the legal profession has so few reportable assets, but that's the reality of living on a federal judicial salary in Manhattan," said Doug Kendall of the nonprofit Constitutional Accountability Center.

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Sotomayor brought in some extra income in 2007 by working as an adjunct professor at New York Law School and lecturing at Columbia Law School. Those jobs paid her nearly \$25,000 that year. She also has traveled frequently to conferences. In 2007, she reported being reimbursed for expenses related to six trips, such as a stint teaching at the University of Puerto Rico and a trip to a judicial clerkship institute at Pepperdine University.

Junkets for judges have become a point of criticism in recent years, but Kendall said Sotomayor's trips appear to have come from reputable sources, and that Sotomayor may have exceeded disclosure requirements by including trips underwritten by the federal government.

Kendall added that any apparent glitches Sotomayor may have made on her reports appear, on the surface, to have been minor and fairly common place.

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No, I think the "whisper campaign" was more along the lines of "she's lazy and hot-tempered."

Posted by: JakeD | May 8, 2009 11:45 AM

I suspect Judge Sotomayor has different priorities than many people who enter public life. She has chosen to focus on jurisprudence instead of attaining wealth or power.

Posted by: query0 | May 8, 2009 5:47 AM

Isn't there some "whisper campaign" about her that the WaPo should be reporting on?

Posted by: JakeD | May 7, 2009 9:23 PM

Shouldn't the obvious question for reporters be "what's missing?" Where is her money going? Don't assume that the forms tell the whole story.

Posted by: tomtildrum | May 7, 2009 11:53 AM

As a financial adviser working in Newton, MA, I am sadly not surprised. The number of highly compensated, high responsibility professionals who have amassed no significant wealth through investing is shockingly high. The truth is that most Americans don't begin to save until their fifties. I would expect that that is even more true for minorities who tend to be less trusting of the

financial world.

Posted by: LeRiverend | May 7, 2009 11:49 AM

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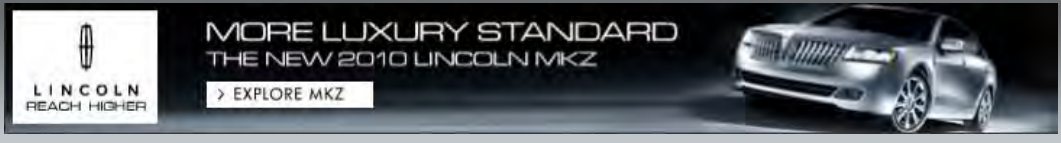
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Sonia Sotomayor's personal financial disclosure puts her sum total of investments at the end of 2007 from \$50,001 to \$115,000.
Photo: AP

If U.S. Appellate Court Judge **Sonia Sotomayor** is confirmed as the **Supreme Court's** newest justice, she would be among its poorest.

Her personal financial disclosure form filed last year puts her sum total of investments at the end 2007 from \$50,001 to \$115,000. She reported only two assets: a checking account and a savings account — both at Citibank.

The form does not require disclosure of the value of a judge's personal residence. But New York City records show that Sotomayor owns a Greenwich Village condo that she bought in 1998 for \$360,000. It's now worth about \$1.4 million, according to Zillow.com. And city records indicate two outstanding mortgages totaling \$450,000.

Papers submitted in connection with her nomination to the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals in 1997 say she was earning \$1,100 a month in rent on a co-op apartment that she owned in Brooklyn. As recently as 2004, she reported less than \$30,000 in her two bank accounts.

A source told The Washington Post earlier this month that Sotomayor once said that filling out her financial reports was a breeze. "When you don't have money, it's easy. There isn't anything there to report," she was quoted as saying.

Sotomayor is divorced and has no children.

She now earns \$184,500 a year as a federal appeals court judge. As an associate justice on the Supreme Court, she would make \$213,900. Both salaries went up 2.8 percent this year.

In 2007, Sotomayor supplemented her federal judicial salary with nearly \$25,000 from teaching at the Columbia and New York University law schools.

She has missed out on the escalation in salaries and profits at major law firms in the past two decades. She reported making about \$150,000 in 1990, her last full year as a private lawyer in New York. She said she was due about \$25,000 for her partnership interest in a small firm, Pavia & Harcourt.

By contrast, when Chief Justice John Roberts left a major Washington law firm, Hogan & Hartson, in May 2003 to take a seat on the D.C. Circuit Court, he was paid more than \$1 million in salary and compensation for his partnership interest.

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Because disclosure forms list assets by a range of values, the precise values of justices' investments are unknown. But Justices Clarence Thomas and Anthony Kennedy appear to be the two poorest, according to their disclosures.

At the end of 2007, Thomas' investments were worth from \$150,001 to \$410,000. Justice Anthony Kennedy held investments worth from \$365,001 to \$765,000.

Despite his small-town ways and frugal reputation, the wealthiest justice is the one Sotomayor would replace: the retiring Justice David Souter. According to 2007 financial reports, he was worth at least \$6.1 million, due mainly to hugely successful investments in New Hampshire and Vermont banks.

Although his reported assets rank him as one of the poorest justices, Thomas has received nearly \$1.2 million from book publisher Harper Collins in recent years in connection with the publication of his memoir, "My Grandfather's Son," in 2007.

Exactly what has become of that money is unclear, though, since there's no indication in his financial disclosures of any increase in his investments.

Private investments have bedeviled the Supreme Court in recent years as recusals of justices have complicated the court's ability to hear cases involving large, publicly traded corporations.

Last year, for instance, the court passed up a case involving businesses that allegedly supported South Africa's apartheid government because three justices had investments which that have been affected by the case and one had a family connection to the matter.

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Friends Provide Glimpse Into Nominee's 'Very Full Life'

By *Keith B. Richburg, Robin Shulman and Nancy Trejos*

Washington Post Staff Writers

Sunday, May 31, 2009

NEW YORK -- Last November, soon after Barack Obama was elected president, a close friend of Judge Sonia Sotomayor's was hospitalized on Long Island because of a series of strokes.



Judge Sonia Sotomayor, a nominee to the Supreme Court, owns a condominium in this Greenwich Village building in New York. (By Craig Ruttle -- Associated Press)

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Speculation was already swirling that the new president might make Sotomayor his first pick should a vacancy open on the Supreme Court. Sotomayor also had a full caseload she was balancing as a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit in Manhattan.

But three or four times a week, Sotomayor would leave work around 7 p.m. to visit her friend. Ever the urbanite, Sotomayor would pick up some chicken soup, get in her white Saab convertible and wind through rush-hour traffic to Long Island to sit by the bedside of a woman who was often unconscious and unaware that Sotomayor was there. Finally, the trips came to an end in April -- not because of the pressures of the trip on her busy life, but because her friend died.

Those visits, recounted by several of Sotomayor's closest friends, provide a telling glimpse into the private life of the woman nominated last week by President Obama to be

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the next Supreme Court justice and the first Hispanic on the high court. The friends go on to describe her in laudatory, if predictable, ways: collegial, intensely loyal, a bedrock in crisis.

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But another portrait emerges as well in their descriptions, one that sets her far apart from the retiring justice she would succeed, David H. Souter. Souter is known as a bookish recluse, a loner who hates airplanes and prefers the solitude of his New Hampshire hamlet called Weare, and is said to have no interest in overseas travel.

Sotomayor is precisely the opposite. Hers is a life that rises and falls on urban rhythms.

"They couldn't be more different," said Ellen Chapnick, dean of the social justice program at Columbia Law School and a close Sotomayor friend. "Not talking about judicial philosophy -- talking about personality type and how they spend their time: They couldn't be more different."

If Sotomayor is confirmed and moves to Washington, Chapnick said, "She'll probably find parts of the city to enjoy that other people don't even know are there."

A 54-year-old divorced woman who never had children, Sotomayor is said to be a workaholic who fills her free time with a huge network of close friends, extended family members, colleagues, former classmates and just about anyone else who has entered her circle. They are judges and lawyers and also secretaries and a mail carrier. She has more godchildren than her friends can count.

She is a gregarious and social New Yorker who loves dinner parties -- in restaurants, at friends' homes or lechon de asado for large gatherings at her two-bedroom apartment in the West Village. She loves dancing; a few years ago, she and friends took salsa lessons at a Tribeca dance studio to improve their moves. She loves shopping. And she loves travel, vacationing with close friends such as Ken Kinzer and his wife, Dawn Cardi. A trip to the Netherlands. Sailing around the Caribbean. Sailing, canoeing and biking around North Carolina's Outer Banks.

A woman from a humble background -- the South Bronx projects -- who now lives on an appellate judge's salary of \$179,500, Sotomayor would be the court's poorest member. On financial disclosure forms, she lists her only assets as a Citibank checking and savings account worth combined \$50,000 to \$115,000, plus the equity in her Greenwich Village condo.

Nonetheless, friends consider her generous with whatever money she has. When Kinzer, who owns a Brooklyn dry cleaning business, got into financial problems in the early 1990s, Sotomayor offered him a loan of \$15,000. "We needed some funds right away. Sonia volunteered," he said. "I was taken aback, never expecting it. I've had family members say no to me."

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Friends Provide Glimpse Into Nominee's 'Very Full Life'

Kinzer and Cardi became Sotomayor's friends in the 1980s when Cardi was working as a legal aid lawyer and Sotomayor was a prosecutor in the Manhattan district attorney's office. Cardi persuaded Sotomayor to move to their neighborhood, Carroll Gardens in Brooklyn, when there was a vacant apartment next door. Sotomayor later bought her own condo down the block, and the friends got together almost every night. "Whether I cooked or ordered in, she was always there at the dinner table," Kinzer said.



Judge Sonia Sotomayor, a nominee to the Supreme Court, owns a condominium in this Greenwich Village building in New York. (By Craig Ruttle -- Associated Press)

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Sotomayor only reluctantly left the neighborhood when she became a judge in Manhattan, because rules stipulate that judges must live in the district to which they are assigned. Still, Cardi said, the dinners continued at Sotomayor's new apartment, where the women would kick off their shoes and order in Thai or Spanish food. Cardi and Sotomayor would also often go to Yankees games -- Sotomayor is a lifelong fan who grew up near Yankee Stadium -- but without Kinzer, a Mets fan.

Besides the Yankees and friendly poker nights with friends, Sotomayor also enjoys Broadway shows and dance -- Alvin Ailey or American Ballet Theatre. Sometimes, when she is too loaded down with work, she passes her tickets on to her clerks.

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And she often does work late, arriving home at 9:30 or 10 p.m. and placing a takeout order at Dallas Jones Bar-B-Q, a ribs-and-chicken joint near her apartment building. It's almost always the same order: the quarter chicken with two sides for \$8.95, said Sam Barry, the woman who owns the restaurant.

"I didn't even know she's a big shot -- just the next-door woman," Barry said. "I didn't know her name. I only knew her as Sonia." She said when friends told her about the appointment and she

saw the news photographers outside, she typed her regular client's name into the computer and saw it come up as Sonia Sotomayor.

Like most New Yorkers, Sotomayor eats out as much as at home. She's a regular on her block and in the neighborhood. Twice a week, between 11 a.m. and noon, she shows up at the Blue Ribbon Bakery on Bedford Street for three breadsticks, a decaf coffee and, sometimes, the sturgeon toast with whole-grain mustard, a few capers, olive oil, chives, sea salt and onions, said employee Milcar Cruz.

"When she comes here, we talk in Spanish, and we just talk about the weather sometimes, about how she's doing. She asks how we're doing. She's a great person. She's very humble," Cruz said.

Sotomayor also pops into a corner bodega for a Fresca and a neighborhood cheese shop for a favorite blue, and she sometimes takes her clerks on a walk across the Brooklyn Bridge to get a slice of Patsy's pizza in Brooklyn.

The huge circle of people in her life, from a diversity of backgrounds, perhaps speaks to her own modest beginnings. Several friends told a story of the ceremony held for Sotomayor when she was elevated to the Appeals Court from the District Court. In her speech, she singled out the janitors and security guards by name, and talked warmly about how they had become a part of her life.

Never particularly athletic as a child, Sotomayor has lately tried to exercise several times a week at the courthouse gym and has hired a personal trainer at the nearby Equinox gym. She has also become an avid bicyclist, sometimes going up the West Side of Manhattan and cycling back down the East.

On top of her busy courtroom docket, Sotomayor also teaches and speaks regularly at legal conferences and seminars.

She has been co-teaching a class at Columbia University since 1999, called the Federal Appellate Court Externship. Once a year, she teaches at the University of Puerto Rico, where she and her mother, who was born on the island, travel around visiting relatives.

"She reads, she dances, she's a normal person," Chapnick said. "She's a modern woman and leads a very full life."

Out of deference to her privacy, the one topic Sotomayor's friends won't discuss is her personal relationships. They said only that Sotomayor "does date."

She married her high school sweetheart, Kevin E. Noonan, in August 1976, and they divorced in 1983. She was engaged in the 1990s to Peter White, who worked in construction and real estate, but they later broke up.

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Behind Judge's Spending and Income

By **JO BECKER**
Published: June 5, 2009

When [John G. Roberts Jr.](#) was named to the [Supreme Court](#), he had a net worth of more than \$6 million, accumulated during his lucrative years in private practice. When [Samuel A. Alito Jr.](#) was appointed, he had a net worth of more than \$2 million, even though he had spent his entire professional career either in government or on the bench.

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So how is it that Judge [Sonia Sotomayor](#), nominated by [President Obama](#) to follow those two men onto the nation's highest court, reported a net worth of just \$740,000 this week, with no stocks or bonds and a savings account of \$31,985, just marginally more than she owes her dentist and credit card companies?

To start with, although Judge Sotomayor became a partner during her eight years at the New York law firm Pavia & Harcourt before becoming a federal district judge in 1992, her salary in her final year at the firm was \$151,761, a far cry from the \$776,000 that Justice Roberts reported pulling down in his last full year at the Washington-based law firm Hogan & Hartson.

Between her salary as a circuit court judge and the money she made as a lecturer at [Columbia University](#) Law School, Judge Sotomayor made \$205,330 last year. Still, the judge, divorced and with no children, does live in Greenwich Village, one of the more expensive neighborhoods in perhaps the most expensive city in the country. Just parking a car here — she drives a white Saab convertible — can cost hundreds of dollars a month.

Judge Sotomayor bought her four-room, 980-square-foot apartment in 1998 for \$360,000, records show — a price comparable to others sold in the building around that time.

Today, Judge Sotomayor values the apartment at just under \$1 million, but records show that after refinancing several times, she owes \$381,775 on her mortgage. In addition, the judge helps support her mother and her mother's husband, the White House said. For [estate](#)

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[planning](#) purposes, the White House said, Judge Sotomayor owns one-third of their Florida condominium, a stake she valued at \$20,000 in the questionnaire she submitted to the Senate this week.

Besides living in an expensive area of the country, Judge Sotomayor has a taste for nice things and is an avid traveler.

Her destinations have ranged from the Caribbean to the Galápagos Islands, and she has been known to stop in at a casino on vacation. Last year, she reported hitting an \$8,283 jackpot while visiting a Florida casino with her mother; a White House spokeswoman, [Stephanie Cutter](#), said the judge was not a regular gambler, though she added jokingly, "She is lucky."

Judge Sotomayor has been described in interviews as an interior decorating buff who loves to shop. And she is a frequent patron of Manhattan restaurants, sometimes picking up the tab for dinner with clerks in SoHo or at Chinatown places like Joe's Shanghai.

Her Christmas preparations have become legendary among friends and former clerks. Each year, according to the White House, she buys more than 60 presents for her nieces, nephews, god-children, friends' children and members of the court staff — including custodians and cafeteria workers — and avidly discusses with her clerks what items are popular with younger people.

Matthew Colangelo, who clerked for the judge in 2002-3, recalled her delight in finding the right gift, as well as the annual holiday party she used to give in the hallway near her office before it got too big. "Besides providing the food, and I think a D.J., she insisted that everyone come, not just the judges and the clerks but the deputies, marshals and building maintenance," he said.

Another former clerk, Charu Chandrasekhar, who worked for the judge in 2004-5, said, "It was a shock to me to see that her assets were as small as they were, just given the way that she always was so unstinting with everyone."

Despite her modest savings, Judge Sotomayor has a financial cushion — after 65, as a federal judge, she is entitled to a pension equal to her annual salary.

A version of this article appeared in print on June 6, 2009, on page A12 of the New York edition.

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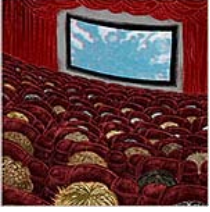


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Sotomayor's personal assets top \$1M, far less than others Obama considered for court

Julie Hirschfeld Davis

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Sotomayor's personal assets top \$1M

WASHINGTON — Supreme Court nominee Sonia Sotomayor says her personal assets top \$1 million.

Her \$1.16 million in assets include her Greenwich Village condo, valued at \$997,500; a \$20,000 stake in another

condominium; and about \$109,000 in cars and other personal property. Her financial statement shows she has \$31,985 in the bank.

Sotomayor released details about her finances as part of a massive portfolio of documents she sent to the Senate Judiciary Committee Thursday in response to a questionnaire about her background and writings. It shows her personal assets amount to far less than others who President Obama considered nominating for the high court.

Sotomayor has \$418,350 in debts, most of it mortgage debt.

THIS IS A BREAKING NEWS UPDATE. Check back soon for further information. AP's earlier story is below.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Supreme Court nominee Sonia Sotomayor says the White House contacted her about serving on the high court four days before Justice David Souter announced that he would retire.

If she's confirmed by the Senate, Sotomayor replaces Souter on the high court.

The appeals court judge divulged the April 27 call from White House counsel Gregory Craig in a massive portfolio of documents she sent to the Senate Judiciary Committee. The committee had asked that she complete a questionnaire about her finances, background and writings.

Souter announced May 1 that he would retire this fall.

Sotomayor says no one ever asked her position during the selection process about any issue that could come before the Supreme Court.

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Two former Jharkhand ministers to be quizzed on corruption charges

August 20th, 2009 RANCHI - Two former Jharkhand ministers, who are under judicial custody and facing charges of corruption, will be interrogated soon, vigilance department sources said Thursday. Harinarayan Rai, an independent legislator, and Enos Ekka of the Jharkhand Party surrendered in the vigilance court of Vinay Kant Khan Aug 17 and were sent to judicial custody.

Top Republican on Senate Judiciary Committee says he remains troubled by Sotomayor's record

July 19th, 2009 Hearings fail to sway Sessions to Sotomayor's side
 WASHINGTON — The top Republican on the Senate committee reviewing Sonia Sotomayor's nomination said Sunday her testimony did not settle his concerns about elevating her to the Supreme Court. "I was troubled by a number of the things the nominee has said, a number of the rulings she has made," said Alabama Sen.

Key Republican senator says he remains troubled by Sotomayor's rulings and remarks

July 19th, 2009 Sessions remains troubled by Sotomayor's record
 WASHINGTON — The top Republican on the Senate Judiciary Committee says he remains troubled by some of Sonia Sotomayor's remarks and rulings. Sen. Jeff Sessions of Alabama says he isn't ready to say whether he will vote for or against President Barack Obama's nominee for the Supreme Court.

Top GOP senator isn't predicting how many Republicans will support Sotomayor's confirmation

July 19th, 2009 Senate GOP chief: Sotomayor won't get my vote
 WASHINGTON — The Senate's top Republican says he admires Judge Sonia Sotomayor's personal story but is not going to vote for her confirmation to the Supreme Court. Sen. Mitch McConnell says that he is "a big fan of her career" and biography.

Specter likes Sotomayor's record, but not her answers

July 15th, 2009 Specter frustrated by nominee
 WASHINGTON — As Sen. Arlen Specter sees it, Supreme Court nominee Sonia Sotomayor has an "exemplary" record on the bench.



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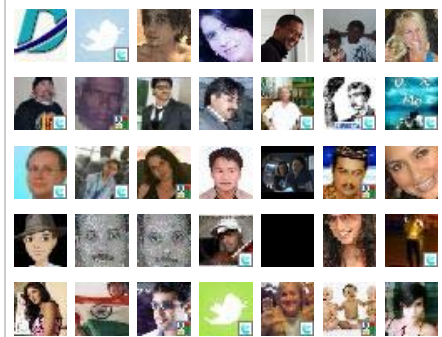


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Sotomayor denies she would let her personal views affect her rulings on high court

July 14th, 2009 Sotomayor vows to use even hand in judging cases WASHINGTON — Supreme Court nominee Sonia Sotomayor has vowed to not let her personal views affect how she would rule on cases from the nation's highest court. In an exchange with the ranking Republican on the Senate Judiciary Committee Tuesday, Sotomayor said she believes comments she has made about the value of life's experiences have been misinterpreted by her critics.

Former Jharkhand ministers abscond as their homes are searched

July 2nd, 2009 RANCHI - Officials of the vigilance department Thursday raided the homes of two former Jharkhand ministers Enos Ekka and Harinarayan Rai to arrest them on corruption charges. But neither was at home.

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Court approves sale of Fleetwood motor home assets to New York private equity for \$53 million

June 26th, 2009 Court OKs \$53M sale of Fleetwood motor home assets NEW YORK — Recreation vehicle maker Fleetwood Enterprises Inc., which has been operating under bankruptcy protection for three months, has received court approval to sell its motor home assets to a private equity firm for \$53 million. The sale to New York-based American Industrial Partners Capital Fund IV LP includes two motor home manufacturing facilities and Fleetwood's Gold Shield supply subsidiary.

Judge consolidates Madoff's business, personal assets to streamline bankruptcy process

June 9th, 2009 Judge consolidates Madoff bankruptcy cases NEW YORK — A federal judge has consolidated two bankruptcy cases involving Bernard Madoff's business and personal assets. The decision Tuesday by U.S.

Top Republican senator says Sotomayor's Supreme Court nomination should hinge on impartiality

June 7th, 2009 GOP says objectivity is key question for Sotomayor WASHINGTON — The Alabama senator leading the GOP's vetting of Supreme Court nominee Sonia Sotomayor said the American tradition of impartial courts is "under attack" and the pivotal question in her nomination should be whether she allows personal views to color her decisions as a judge. Delivering the Republican Party's weekly radio and Internet address Saturday, Sen.

For top Republican senator, Sotomayor's impartiality on bench is key to Supreme Court bid

June 6th, 2009 Sotomayor's objectivity on bench is key question WASHINGTON — The senator leading the GOP's review of Sonia Sotomayor said the central question in her Supreme Court nomination should be whether she allows personal views to color her decisions. In the Republican Party's weekly radio and Internet address Saturday, Sen.

White House: Sotomayor's swift survey response builds case for timely confirmation hearings

June 4th, 2009 White House builds case for swift confirmation WASHINGTON — The White House says Supreme Court nominee Sonia Sotomayor's quick response to an extensive Senate survey should lead to swift confirmation hearings. White House counsel Gregory Craig said Sotomayor (soh-toh-my-YOR') completed substantive answers to the Senate Judiciary Committee's questions in nine days.

White House gives Senate panel documents on Sotomayor's speeches, writings, nomination

June 4th, 2009 White House delivers Sotomayor files to Senate WASHINGTON — The White House delivered a huge portfolio of Supreme Court nominee Sonia Sotomayor's writings, speeches and rulings to Capitol Hill Wednesday, with details about the federal judge that will shape the debate over seating her on the court. The massive parcel of documents came in response to a questionnaire the Senate Judiciary Committee sends all federal court nominees.

Monaco says Navistar to buy most of its assets for \$52 million

April 25th, 2009 Monaco says Navistar to buy most of its assets COBURG, Ore. — RV maker Monaco Coach Corp.

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"Great spirits have always found violent opposition from mediocrities. The latter cannot understand it when a man does not thoughtlessly submit to hereditary prejudices but honestly and courageously uses his intelligence." - Albert Einstein

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